

S W I

- Firm we subſiſt, yet poſſible to ſwerve. *Milton.*
Many who, through the contagion of ill example, ſwerve exceedingly from the rules of their holy faith, yet would upon ſuch an extraordinary warning be brought to comply with them. *Atterbury's Sermons.*
3. To ply; to bend.
Now their mightieſt quell'd, the battle ſwerv'd
With many an inroad gor'd. *Milton.*
4. [I know not whence derived.] To climb on a narrow body.
Ten wildings have I gather'd for my dear,
Upon the topmoſt branch, the tree was high,
Yet nimble up from bough to bough I ſwerv'd. *Dryden.*
She fled, returning by the way the went,
And ſwerv'd along her bow with ſwift aſcent. *Dryden.*
- SWIFT. *adj.* [ſwift, Saxon.]
1. Moving far in a ſhort time; quick; fleet; ſpeedy; nimble; rapid.
Thou art fo far before,
That ſwiftly wing of recompence is ſlow
To overtake thee. *Shakeſpeare.*
Yet are theſe feet, whoſe ſtrengthleſs ſtay is numb,
Unable to ſupport this lump of clay, *Shakeſpeare.*
Swift-winged with deſire to get a grave. *Shakeſpeare.*
Men of war, whoſe faces were like the faces of lions, and as ſwift as the roes upon the mountains. *Chron. xii. 8.*
We imitate and praſtice to make ſwifter motions than any out of other muſkets. *Bacon.*
To him with ſwift aſcent he up return'd. *Milton.*
Things that move ſo ſwift as not to affect the ſenſes diſtinctly, with ſeveral diſtinguiſhable diſtances of their motion, and ſo cauſe not any train of ideas in the mind, are not perceived to move. *Locke.*
It preſerves the ends of the bones from incalcſcency, which they, being ſolid bodies, would contract from any ſwift motion. *Ray.*
Thy ſtumbling founde'r'd jade can trot as high
As any other Pegasus can fly;
So the dull eel moves nimble in the mud,
Than all the ſwift ſnail racers of the flood. *Dorſet.*
Clouded in a deep abyſs of light,
While preſent, too ſevere for human fight,
Nor ſtaying longer than one ſwift-wing'd night. *Prior.*
Mantiger made a circle round the chamber, and the ſwift-footed martin purſued him. *Arbutnot.*
There too my ſon,—ah once my beſt delight,
Once ſwift of foot, and terrible in fight. *Pope's Odeſſy.*
Swift they deſcend, with wing to wing conjoin'd,
Stretch their broad plumes, and float upon the wind. *Pope.*
2. Ready.
Let every man be ſwift to hear, ſlow to ſpeak. *Ja. i. 19.*
He made intricate ſeem ſtraight,
To miſchief ſwift. *Milton.*
- SWIFT. *n. f.* [from the quickneſs of their flight.]
1. A bird like a ſwallow; a martin.
Swifts and ſwallows have remarkably ſhort legs, and their toes graſp any thing very ſtrongly. *Derham.*
2. The current of a ſtream.
He can live in the ſtrongeſt ſwifts of the water. *Walton.*
- SWIFTLY. *adv.* [from ſwift.] Fleetly; rapidly; nimblely; with celerity; with velocity.
Theſe move ſwiftly, and at great diſtance; but then they require a medium well-diſpoſed, and their tranſmiſſion is eaſily ſtopped. *Bacon's Natural Hiſtory.*
Pleaſ'd with the paſſage, we ſlide ſwiftly on,
And ſee the dangers which we cannot ſhun. *Dryden.*
In decent order they advance to light;
Yet then too ſwiftly fleet by human fight,
And meditate too ſoon their everlaſting flight. *Prior.*
- SWIFTESS. *n. f.* [from ſwift.] Speed; nimbleneſs; rapidity; quickneſs; velocity; celerity.
Let our proportions for theſe wars
Be ſoon collected, and all thing thought upon,
That may with reaſonable ſwifneſs add
More feathers to our wings. *Shakeſpeare's Henry V.*
We may outrun
By violent ſwifneſs that which we run at;
And loſe by over running. *Shakeſpeare's Henry VIII.*
Speed to deſcribe whoſe ſwifneſs number fails. *Milton.*
Exulting, till he finds their nobler ſenſe
Their diſproportion'd ſpeed does recompence;
Then curſes his conſpiring feet, whoſe ſcent
Betrays that ſafety which their ſwifneſs lent. *Denham.*
Such is the mighty ſwifneſs of your mind,
That like the earth's, it leaves our ſenſe behind. *Dryden.*
- TO SWIPE. *v. n.* [ſwiga, Iſlandick.] To drink by large draughts.
TO SWILL. *v. a.* [ſwigan, Saxon.]
1. To drink luxuriouſly and groſſly.
The wretched, bloody, and uſurping boar
That ſpoil'd your ſummer fields and fruitful vines,
Swill your warm blood like waſh, and makes his trough
In your embowel'd bowſoms. *Shakeſpeare's Richard III.*

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- The moſt common of theſe cauſes are an hereditary diſpoſition, ſwilling down great quantities of cold watery liquors. *Arbutnot on Diet.*
- Such is the poet, freſh in pay,
The third night's profits of his play;
His morning draughts till noon can ſwill,
Among his brethren of the quill. *Swift.*
2. To waſh; to drench.
As fearfully as doth a galled rock
O'erhang and jutty his confounded baſe,
Swill'd with the wild and waſteful ocean. *Shakeſpeare.*
With that a German oft has ſwill'd his throat,
Deluded, that imperial Rhine beſtow'd
The generous rummer. *Philips.*
3. To inebriate.
I ſhould be loth
To meet the rudeneſs and ſwill'd inſolence
Of ſuch late waſtallers. *Milton.*
He drinks a ſwilling draught; and lin'd within,
Will ſupple in the bath his outward ſkin. *Dryden.*
- SWILL. *n. f.* [from the verb.] Drink, luxuriouſly poured down.
Give ſwine ſuch ſwill as you have. *Mortimer.*
Thus as they ſwim, in mutual ſwill the talk
Reels faſt from theme to theme. *Thomſon.*
- SWILLER. *n. f.* [from ſwill.] A luxurious drinker.
TO SWIM. *v. n.* Preterite ſwam, ſwum, or ſwum. [ſwimmian, Saxon; ſwemmen, Dutch.]
1. To float on the water; not to ſink.
I will ſcarce think you have ſwam in a gondola. *Shakeſpeare.*
We have ſhips and boats for going under water, and brooking of ſeas; alſo ſwimming-girdles and ſupporters. *Bacon.*
2. To move progreſſively in the water by the motion of the limbs.
Leap in with me into this angry flood,
And ſwim to yonder point. *Shakeſpeare's Julius Cæſar.*
I have ventur'd,
Like little wanton boys that ſwim on bladders,
Theſe many ſummers in a ſea of glory;
But far beyond my depth. *Shakeſpeare's Henry VIII.*
The ſoldiers council was to kill the priſoners, left any of them ſhould ſwim out and eſcape. *Act. xxvii. 42.*
The reſt driven into the lake, where ſeeking to ſave their lives by ſwimming, they were ſlain in coming to land by the Spaniſh horſemen, or elſe in their ſwimming ſhot by the harquebuſiers. *Knellet.*
Animals ſwim in the ſame manner as they go, and need no other way of motion for natation in the water, than for progreſſion upon the land. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
The frighted wolf now ſwims among the ſheep,
The yellow lion wanders in the deep;
I he ſtag ſwims faſter than he ran before. *Dryden.*
Blue Triton gave the ſignal from the ſhore,
The ready Nereids heard and ſwam before, *Dryden.*
To ſmooth the ſeas.
3. To be conveyed by the ſtream.
With tenders of our protection of them from the fury of thoſe who would ſoon drown them, if they reſuſed to ſwim down the popular ſtream with them. *King Charles.*
I ſwam with the tide, and the water under me was buoyant. *Dryden.*
4. To glide along with a ſmooth or dizzy motion.
She with pretty and with ſwimming gate
Follying, her womb then rich with my young ſquire
Would imitate. *Shakeſpeare.*
A hovering miſt came ſwimming o'er his ſight,
And ſcal'd his eyes in everlaſting night. *Dryden.*
My ſlack hand dropt, and all the idle pomp,
Prieſts, altars, victims ſwam before my fight! *Smith.*
The fainting ſoul ſtood ready wing'd for flight,
And o'er his eye-balls ſwam the ſhades of night. *Pope.*
5. To be dizzy; to be vertiginous.
I am taken with a grievous ſwimming in my head, and ſuch a miſt before my eyes, that I can neither hear nor ſee. *Dryden.*
6. To be floated.
When the heavens are filled with clouds, when the earth ſwims in rain, and all nature wears a lowering countenance, I withdraw myſelf from theſe uncomfortable ſcenes into the viſionary worlds of art. *Addiſon's Spectator.*
Sudden the ditches ſwell, the meadows ſwim. *Thomſon.*
7. To have abundance of any quality; to flow in any things.
They now ſwim in joy,
Ere long to ſwim at large, and laugh; for which
The world a world of tears muſt weep. *Milton.*
- TO SWIM. *v. a.* To paſs by ſwimming.
Sometimes he thought to ſwim the ſtormy main,
By ſtretch of arms the diſtant ſhore to gain. *Dryden.*
- SWIMM. *n. f.* [from the verb.] The bladder of fiſhes by which they are ſupported in the water.
The braces have the nature and uſe of tendons, in contracting the ſwim, and thereby tranſfufing the air out of one bladder into another, or diſcharging it from them both. *Swimmer.*

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- SWIMMER. *n. f.* [from ſwim.]
1. One who ſwims.
Birds find eaſe in the depth of the air, as ſwimmers do in a deep water. *Bacon.*
Latroſtrous and flat billed birds, being generally ſwimmers, the organ is wiſely contriv'd for action. *Brown.*
Life is off preſerv'd
By the bold ſwimmer, in the ſwift illaple
Of accident diſtrotous. *Thomſon.*
2. The ſwimmer is ſituated in the fore legs of a horſe, above the knees, and upon the inſide, and almoſt upon the back parts of the hind legs, a little below the hani: this part is without hair, and reſembles a piece of hard dry horn. *Farrier's Diſt.*
- SWIMMINGLY. *adv.* [from ſwimming.] Smoothly; without obſtruction. A low word.
John got on the battlements, and called to Nick, I hope the cauſe goes on ſwimmingly. *Arbutnot.*
- SWINE. *n. f.* [ſwin, Saxon; ſwyn, Dutch.] It is probably the plural of ſome old word, and is now the ſame in both numbers.] A hog; a pig. A creature remarkable for ſtupidity and naſtineſs.
O monſtrous beaſt! how like a ſwine he lies! *Shakeſp.*
He will be ſwine drunk; and in his ſleep he does little harm, ſave to his bedcloaths. *Shakeſpeare.*
- Who knows not Circe,
The daughter of the Sun? whoſe charmed cup
Whoever taſted, loſt his upright ſhape,
And downward fell into a groveling ſwine. *Milton.*
Had the upper part, to the middle, been of human ſhape, and all below ſwine, had it been murder to deſtroy it? *Locke.*
How inſtinct varies in the grov'ling ſwine,
Compaſd, half reaſoning elephant, with thine! *Pope.*
- SWINEHEAD. *n. f.* A kind of plant; truſſes. *Bailey.*
SWINEHERD. *n. f.* [ſwin and hſyn, Saxon.] A keeper of hogs. *Tiſſer.*
There ſwineherd, that keepeth the hog.
The whole interview between Ulyſſes and Eumeus has fallen into ridicule: Eumeus has been judged to be of the ſame rank and condition with our modern ſwineherds. *Brome.*
- SWINEPIKE. *n. f.* A bird of the truſh kind. *Bailey.*
TO SWING. *v. n.* [ſwingan, Saxon.]
1. To wave too and fro hanging looſely.
I tried if a pendulum would ſwing faſter, or continue ſwinging longer in our receiver, in caſe of exuſion of the air, than otherwiſe. *Boyle.*
If the coach ſwing but the leaſt to one ſide, ſhe uſed to ſhriek ſo loud, that all concluded ſhe was overturned. *Arbutnot.*
Jack hath hanged himſelf: let us go ſee how he ſwings. *Arb.*
When the ſwinging ſigns your ears offend
With creaking noiſe, then rainy floods impend. *Gay.*
2. To fly backward and forward on a rope.
TO SWING. *v. a.* preterite ſwang, ſwung.
1. To make to play looſely on a ſtring.
2. To whirl round in the air.
His ſword prepar'd
He ſwang about his head, and cut the winds. *Shakeſpeare.*
Take bottles and ſwing them: fill not the bottles full, but leave ſome air, elſe the liquor cannot play nor flower. *Bacon.*
Swinging a red-hot iron about, or ſtuffing it into a wheel under that motion, it will ſooner grow cold. *Brown.*
Swing thee in the air, then daſh thee down,
To th' hazard of thy brains and ſtatter'd ſides. *Milton.*
3. To wave looſely.
If one approach to dare his force,
He ſwings his tail, and ſwiftly turns him round. *Dryden.*
- SWING. *n. f.* [from the verb.]
1. Motion of any thing hanging looſely.
In caſting of any thing, the arms, to make a greater ſwing, are firſt caſt backward. *Bacon's Natural Hiſtory.*
Men uſe a pendulum, as a more ſteady and regular motion than that of the earth; yet if any one ſhould aſk how he certainly knows that the two ſucceſſive ſwings of a pendulum are equal, it would be very hard to ſatisfy him. *Locke.*
2. A line on which any thing hangs looſe.
3. Influence or power of a body put in motion:
The ram that batters down the wall,
For the great ſwing and rudeneſs of his poize,
They place before his hand that made the engine. *Shakeſp.*
In this encyclopædia, and round of knowledge, like the great wheels of heaven, we're to obſerve two circles, that, while we are daily carried about, and whirled on by the ſwing and rapt of the one, we may maintain a natural and proper courſe in the ſober wheel of the other. *Brown.*
The deſcending of the earth to this orbit is not upon that mechanical account Cartellus pretends, namely, the ſtrong ſwing of the more ſolid globuli that overflow it. *Mare.*
4. Courſe; unreſtrained liberty; abandonment to any motive.
Facts unjuſt
Commit, even to the full ſwing of his luſt. *Chapman.*
Take thy ſwing;
For not to take, is but the ſelf ſame thing. *Dryden.*

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- Let them all take their ſwing
To pillage the king,
And get a blue ribbon inſtead of a ſtring. *Swift.*
5. Unreſtrained tendency.
Where the ſwing goeth, there follow, fawn, flatter, laugh, and lie luſtily at other mens liking. *Aſham's Schoolmaſter.*
Theſe exuberant productions only excited and fomented his luſts; ſo that his whole time lay upon his hands, and gave him leiſure to contrive and with full ſwing purſue his follies. *Wood.*
Thoſe that are ſo perſuaded, deſire to be wife in a way that will gratify their appetites, and ſo give up themſelves to the ſwing of their unbounded propenſions. *Glauv. Scpt. Preface.*
Were it not for theſe, civil government were not able to ſtand before the prevailing ſwing of corrupt nature, which would know no honeſty but advantage. *South.*
- TO SWINGE. *v. a.* [ſwingan, Saxon.]
1. To whip; to baſtinage; to puniſh.
Sir, I was in love with my bed: I thank you, you ſwing'd me for my love, which makes me the bolder to chide you for your's. *Shakeſp. Two Gent. of Verona.*
This very rev'rend letcher, quite worn out
With rheumiſms, and crippled with his gout,
Forgets what he in youthful times has done,
And ſwings his own vices in his ſon. *Dryd. juv. Juvenal.*
The printer brought along with him a bundle of theſe papers, which, in the phraſe of the whig-coffeehouſes, have ſwing'd off the Examiner. *Swift.*
2. To move as a laſh. Not in uſe.
He, wroth to ſee his kingdom fail,
Swinge the ſcally horror of his folded tail. *Milton.*
- SWINGE. *n. f.* [from the verb.] A ſway; a ſweep of any thing in motion. Not in uſe.
The ſhallow water doth her force infringe,
And renders vain her tail's impetuous ſwinge. *Waller.*
- SWINGEBUCKLER. *n. f.* [ſwinge and buckler.] A bully; a man who pretends to feats of arms.
You had not four ſuch ſwingebucklers in all the inns of court again. *Shakeſp. Henry IV.*
- SWINGER. *n. f.* [from ſwing.] He who ſwings; a hurler.
SWINGING. *adj.* [from ſwinging.] Great; huge. A low word.
The countryman ſeeing the lion diſarmed, with a ſwinging cudgel broke off the match. *L'Eſt ange.*
A good ſwinging ſum of John's readieſt caſh went towards building of Hocus's countryhouſe. *Arbutnot.*
- SWINGINGLY. *adv.* [from ſwinging.] Vaſtly; greatly.
Henceforward he'll print neither pamphlets nor linen,
And, if ſwearing can do't, ſhall be ſwingingly maul'd. *Swift.*
- TO SWINGLE. *v. n.* [from ſwing.]
1. To dangle; to wave hanging.
2. To ſwing in pleaſure.
- SWINISH. *adj.* [from ſwine.] Beſitting ſwine; reſembling ſwine; groſs; brutal.
They clepe us drunkards, and with ſwinish phraſe
Soil our addition. *Shakeſp. Hamlet.*
Swinish gluttony
Ne'er looks to heav'n amidſt his gorgeous feaſt;
But, with beſotted baſe ingratitude,
Crums and blaſphemies his feeder. *Milton.*
- TO SWINK. *v. n.* [ſwincan, Saxon.] To labour; to toil; to drudge. Obſolete.
Riches, renown, and principality,
For which men ſwink and ſweat inceſſantly. *Fairy Queen.*
For they do ſwink and ſweat to feed the other,
Who live like lords of that which they do gather. *Hub. Tale.*
- TO SWINK. *v. a.* To overlabour.
The labour'd ox
In his looſe traces from the furrow came,
And the ſwink'd hedger at his ſupper ſat. *Milton.*
- SWINK. *n. f.* [ſwinc, Saxon.] Labour; toil; drudgery. Obſolete.
Ah, Piers, been thy teeth on edge, to think
How great ſport they gaynen with little ſwinke? *Spenser.*
Thou's but a lazy loorde,
And rekes much of thy ſwinke. *Spenser.*
- SWITCH. *n. f.* A ſmall flexible twig.
Fetch me a dozen crabtree ſtaves, and ſtrong ones; theſe are but ſwitches. *Shakeſp. Henry VIII.*
When a circle 'bout the wiſt
Is made by beadle exorcift,
The body feels the ſpur and ſwitch. *Hadibras.*
Mauritania, on the fifth medal, leads a horſe with ſomething like a thread; in her other hand ſhe holds a ſwitch. *Addiſon.*
- TO SWITCH. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To laſh; to jerk.
Lay thy bridle's weight
Moſt of thy left ſide; thy right horſe then ſwitching, all thy throat
Spent in encouragements, give him; and all the rein let float. *Chapman's Iliad.*
- SWIVEL. *n. f.* Something fixed in another body ſo as to turn round in it.